

Tom Horne
Superintendent



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HORNE RELEASES MEASURE OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS (MAP) RESULTS FOR ARIZONA SCHOOLS

DATA NOW MORE IMPORTANT FOR SCHOOL PERFORMANCE DATA

PHOENIX (Wednesday, September 17, 2003) – Tom Horne, Arizona’s Superintendent of Public Instruction, today emphasized the importance of Arizona’s Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) while releasing the 2003 results.

“I have increased the role of the Measure of Academic Progress from marginal to 40% of the Arizona accountability system,” said Horne. “This makes the system much fairer to good schools in poor neighborhoods. Rather than being measured on their absolute test scores, this gives them credit for moving the students at least one year of academic progress from where the students start. This corrects the injustice last year where some excellent schools in poor neighborhoods were unfairly labeled underperforming, because the academic progress of the schools was not given sufficient consideration,” Horne added.

“The Measure of Academic Progress is a much more significant part of the new ‘Arizona Learns’ performance standards,” Horne said. “When I took office in January, one of my goals was to make those standards more accurately reflect the way Arizona’s schools are performing. Unlike past years, when MAP was just a marginal component of the performance calculations, the standards I pushed for and ultimately were agreed to by the State Board ensure that MAP will account for 40% of the performance measurements.”

“As a result of these changes, ‘Arizona Learns’ is much more accurate. It removes the injustice of schools in economically disadvantaged areas that do a good job educating children being penalized for being in a poorer area. In addition, the number of schools labeled as ‘highly performing’ and ‘excelling’ will increase.”

The calculations, based on scores on the Stanford 9 test taken by schoolchildren in spring 2003, are based on the ability of Arizona’s students to perform in reading, writing and mathematics at all grade levels based on nationwide standards.

MAP is used to measure individual student growth. Stanford 9 results are linked from one year to the next and student growth on the test is calculated. Currently, the term One Year’s Growth (OYG) is defined as attaining the same level of achievement from year-to-year while learning more difficult academic material.

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Note: To access results on the web: www.ade.az.gov. Go to “Statistics, Research and Reports” and then click on “Test Results Information.” After that, go to “2002-2003 MAP Data.”

